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SUBJECT: Chavez- The Oligarch - Sao Paulo Media Reaction

Title- Chavez, the Oligarch

Lead editorial in center-right O Estado de S. Paulo (November 23) says: "...In any country governed for almost ten years by a president with a 62% popularity rating, the conquest, by the opposition, of some rich and populous States would be a setback for him - in Chavez's case, this would be a disaster. First of all, because this would destroy forever the image of unbeatable chief at the ballot box... and secondly, but no less important, because it is from the control of the states that Hugo Chavez intends to resuscitate the Bolivarian constitution - which transformed Venezuela into a socialist country, without capitalism and private initiative, in addition to allow indefinite re-election -, which was repudiated by the voters. The Bolivarian dictatorship of Chavez is no different from typical Latin American military dictatorships. Established to repair deteriorated political practices, to put the richness of the country at the people's service and modernize institutions and the national economy, in a very short period of time it has transformed itself into all that it promised to combat."

White